



COMDTINST 1223.8B

27 AUG 1992

COMMANDANT INSTRUCTION 1223.8B

Subj: Implementation Policies and Procedures for the Merger of the Port Securityman and Fire and Safety Technician Ratings

- Ref: (a) COMDTINST M1001.27A, Reserve Administration and Training Manual
- (b) COMDTINST M1414.8B, Enlisted Qualifications Manual
- (c) COMDTINST M1100.2B, Recruiting Manual
- (d) COMDTINST M3010.12 (series) Readiness Planning Manual, Volumes I & II.

1. PURPOSE. This Instruction refocuses the Port Securityman (PS) rating and disestablishes the Fire and Safety Technician (FS) rating in the Coast Guard Reserve.
2. DIRECTIVES AFFECTED. COMDTINST 1223.8A is cancelled. Provisions in this notice supersede guidance contained in:
 - a. COMDTINST M1001.27 (series), Reserve Administration and Training Manual;
 - b. COMDTINST M1020.6 (series), Uniform Regulations Manual;
 - c. COMDTINST M1100.2 (series), Recruiting Manual;
 - d. COMDTINST M1414.8 (series), Enlisted Qualifications Manual;
 - e. COMDTINST M3010.12 (series), Readiness Planning Manual, Volumes I & II.

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	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z
A																										
B		8	20*		1			6		4				30				30								1
C			1		6								1							1						1
D		1	1	1																						
E														1	1			1								
F	2	1	3	2	1	1	1	1	2	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1			1						
G																										
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3. DISCUSSION.

- a. PS and FS Restructuring. The PS rating has been restructured by incorporating many of the knowledge and skills requirements of the FS rating. Analysis has indicated that the merger of the PS and FS ratings will best serve the overall needs of the Coast Guard Marine Safety and Reserve Programs. This action will provide reservists with basic port safety skills and a core of knowledge required to perform a wider variety of duties. It will also increase the flexibility of Marine Safety Offices (MSOs) to respond to both routine and emergency surge operations. The FS rating will be disestablished effective 31 January 1993.
- b. Historic Overview. In April 1990, the Port Safety and Security Division (G-MPS), in concert with RTC Yorktown and operational commands, completed a Job Task Analysis (JTA) for petty officers assigned to MSOs. This JTA revealed an overlap in performance qualifications between the PS, FS, and Marine Science Technician (MST) ratings. Particular concern was expressed about the excessive specialization within the PS and FS ratings. Final analysis indicated that the PS rating needed a core of basic knowledge in port safety responsibilities to provide maximum augmentation opportunities within the MSOs. This basic knowledge could be delivered in the PS "A" School Curriculum and closely parallel the Marine Safety Petty Officer Course (MSPOC).

(1) Another (G-MPS) JTA, completed during the same period, determined the type and extent of firefighting skills needed at MSOs. Findings of this JTA, and changes in cargo handling methods and systems in the maritime shipping industry, indicated a diminished need for a Coast Guard Reserve firefighting rating. Desired firefighting skills could be provided to active duty and Reserve personnel through civilian contracted "C" school training and tracked through assigned qualification codes. The use of "qual codes" would eliminate the need for a separate rate for firefighters.

(2) Based on data provided by the JTA's and lessons learned from Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm, the Commandant approved the plan to merge the PS and FS ratings on 19 March 1992.

4. POLICY AND PROCEDURE.

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a. Lateral procedures and revised PS rating requirements.

- (1) Effective 31 January 1993, the Fire and Safety Technician rating is disestablished. The wearing of the FS rating badge will not be authorized after this date.
- (2) On 31 January 1993, reservists previously assigned to the FS rating will automatically be lateraled, through Headquarters action to the PS rating. There are no special requirements for FS personnel lateraling to the new PS rating. Since the new PS performance qualifications emphasize port safety skills, FS training and experience should easily transfer to the new PS rating.
- (3) Diagonal changes in rating, from FS to PS are not authorized as part of the merger process.
- (4) For those reservists currently assigned to the PS rating, and who received rate training prior to April 1989, there are no special requirements for maintaining rate currency. However, it is recommended that these PS's read and familiarize themselves with the information contained in the Marine Safety Manual, volumes I - VII and local Coast Guard plans and procedures related to the port safety mission. Also, they should be encouraged to complete the Marine Safety Initial Indoctrination Lesson Plan Series (IILPS) and the Marine Environmental Protection (MEP) correspondence courses to update their professional skills and knowledge.
- (5) For those reservists currently assigned to the PS rating, who attended PS "A" School between April 1989 and October 1991, the merger will significantly affect their rating performance qualifications and ability to advance. Since these reservists were trained primarily in port security skills, they possess very few port safety skills. As a result, they will need basic port safety familiarization training to remain competitive for advancement. It is imperative that these PS's read and familiarize themselves with information contained in the Marine Safety Manuals, volumes I - VII and local Coast Guard plans and procedures related to the port safety mission. Personnel in this training category are required to complete the IILPS correspondence course before they will be permitted to compete for advancement. It is also strongly recommended that they complete the MEP correspondence course.

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- (6) An important change created by the PS rating refocus is the requirement for normal color vision. Current PS's who do not possess normal color vision are required to request a waiver from Commandant (G-RST) to remain in the rating. A grandfather waiver policy will be in effect until 31 January 1993. After that date PS's found to be color vision deficient and have not applied for a waiver, may be removed from the PS rating. PS's who have received a waiver will be permitted to remain in the rating but will not be permitted to advance in rate. Also, they may receive restricted duty assignments while on IDT or ADT at the discretion of the receiving active duty command. FS's are unaffected by the change since they were already required to have normal color vision.
- (7) While the opportunity to lateral to the PS rating is available to all enlisted personnel, requests from reservists who have served at an active duty MSO or a related marine safety unit will receive preference. Districts should only recommend approval of laterals to PS if the reservist has mobilization orders to or augments a unit with a marine safety mission. Endorsements to requests for laterals shall state whether the member possesses normal color vision.

b. Advancement and Promotion Procedures.

- (1) The October 1992 FS and PS SWEs will be conducted as scheduled, based on each of the rating's current performance qualifications and examination participation eligibility requirements. Based on the SWE results, FS and PS rated reservists eligible for promotion will be advanced as vacancies occur. FS rated personnel promoted from that list will be advanced as PSs starting in January 1993.
- (2) The following FS and PS correspondence courses will be obsolete as of 31 January 1993: FS2 (0225-2), FS1 (0125-5), PS2 (0265-2), and PS1 (0165-1). These obsolete courses will not meet correspondence course completion requirements for any future PS rating SWEs.
- (3) The new PS performance qualifications become effective when published as a change to reference (b).

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- c. Enlistment Policy. Prior service and non-prior service RP/RK/RX category reservists will be the primary source of personnel for the new PS rating. Non-prior service direct entry petty officers (RX category) will be a secondary personnel source. The new emphasis of the RX program is to provide an avenue for a limited number of highly specialized safety professionals to enter the Coast Guard Reserve.

RX recruiting will continue to target civilian firefighters and police officers with investigative skills. However, our efforts will also include recruiting industrial safety professionals (serving as fire, pollution, or building code inspectors) and transportation safety specialists for the program. RX program changes will be reflected in the next published change to references (a) and (c).

- d. Mobilization Requirements. The Contingency Personnel Allowance List (CPAL) will be changed during the current planning cycle to reflect program managers requirements. FS Billets in the MOBSYSTEM will be changed through Headquarters action.

5. RESPONSIBILITIES.

- a. Commandant (G-REP) will:

- (1) Amend COMDTINST M3010 (series), Readiness Planning Manual, Volumes I & II to reflect rating structure changes.
- (2) Reflect changes in the Contingency Personnel Allowance List (CPAL).


- b. Commandant (G-RST) will:

- (1) Revise COMDTINST M1001.27A, Reserve Administration and Training Manual to reflect the content of this Instruction.
- (2) Provide each District Commander (r) a list of PS "A" school graduates that are required to complete the IILPS correspondence course before they can compete for advancement.
- (3) Modify enlisted advancement procedures to reflect the content of this instruction.

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- c. Commandant (G-RS) will coordinate PMIS modifications with PPC Topeka to reflect Reserve Program rating structure changes.
 - d. Commandant (G-PRF) will amend COMDTINST M1414.8B, Enlisted Qualifications Manual to reflect new PS performance qualifications and to delete obsolete FS performance qualifications.
 - e. Commandant (G-PRJ) will:
 - (1) Amend COMDTINST M1100.2B, Recruiting Manual to reflect changes to the PS rating recruiting program and delete references to the FS rating.
 - (2) Revise all recruiting literature to reflect these changes.
 - f. District Commander (r)'s shall:
 - (1) Amend local records, reports, and publications to reflect Reserve Program changes to the PS and FS ratings.
 - (2) Notify affected reservists of policies in paragraph 4 and assist them as appropriate.
6. ACTION. District commanders, reserve group commanders, and unit commanding officers, shall ensure wide dissemination of and compliance with this Instruction.


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ACTING CHIEF, OFFICE OF READINESS
AND RESERVE